

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: March 22, 1996

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SUBJECT: Industry Court Site, Deer Park, Suffolk County, New York

POLREP: POLREP 1 (One) Initial Report

I. BACKGROUND

Site No.:	GU
Delivery Order No.:	2001-02-098
Response Authority:	CERCLA
ERNS No:	N/A
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
Approval Status:	03/15/96
State Notification:	12/27/95
Status of Action Memorandum:	N/A
Start Date:	03/20/96
Demobilization Date:	N/A
Completion Date:	N/A

II. INCIDENT INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

CERCLA Incident Category: Response - Abandonment of
Hazardous
Materials.

B. Situation

1. Site Description/Information A trailer which was reported stolen from the American Pallet Company in January 1995, was found abandoned along the side of a road in Long Island, New York in December 1995. When the trailer was found it was opened and appeared to be loaded (floor to ceiling) with pallets so it was returned to the facility to be unloaded. As the trailer was being unloaded, drums stacked 2

high were encountered about 10 feet from the door. It is estimated that approximately 100 drum are on the trailer. The police was notified, who in turn notified the Environmental Crimes Unit of the Suffolk County District Attorney's (DA) office for investigation. On December 11, 1995, the Suffolk County DA Environmental Crimes Unit took 6 samples from the drums and determined that the drums were plating wastes. On December 27, 1995, the New York State Department of Conservation notified the U.S. EPA. On December 28, 1995, EPA conducted an expedited removal assessment. The trailer was secured as a crime scene until January 26, 1996, until the Environmental Crimes Units could complete its investigation. The position of the Suffolk County DA's Environmental Crimes Unit is that the American Pallet Company is not the PRP but rather a crime victim.

2. Response Information

ACTION TAKEN:

A. EPA and START conducted an expedited removal assessment on 12/28/95, and found a trailer containing approximately 100 drums of abandoned plating wastes. Air monitoring revealed no readings in the breathing zone.

B. Written authorization (\$248,000, \$150,000 mitigation) was given (03/15/96) to start the removal and ERCS was activated.

C. ERCS mobilized to the site on 03/21/96, stabilized and moved 8 containers from the parking lot to the staging area at the rear of the property and then demobilized from the site the same day. This completed Phase I. Phase II, which includes the removal of drums from the trailer to the staging area for overpacking, sampling, and disposal will begin when the contents of the drums thaw. Phase II is expected to begin in the May/June time frame.

3. Enforcement: Suffolk County Environmental Crimes Unit investigators were on the site and have taken samples for evidence. EPA CID from Region 5 (Detroit) also has been notified and have coordinated with the County investigators. The County will retain the criminal enforcement lead on this case. Enforcement actions are pending. Some evidence has identified PRPs. This removal action will also support these criminal case actions.

C. Next Steps: Phase II - Once Hazcatting has been accomplished, ERCS T&D will coordinate for disposal and possibly for temporary storage. The site is not secure and is not appropriate for unsupervised storage of hazardous materials. Once empty and determined clean the trailer will be turned back over its owner, the American Pallet Company.